

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition comprising:

(a) fabric treatment agent comprising a fabric softener component comprising an amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or an ester quaternary ammonium compound; and

(b) carrier component for containing the fabric treatment agent in a solid form during operating conditions in a dryer, the carrier component comprising an ethylene bisamide;

wherein the fabric treatment composition transfers to wet fabric as a result of solubilizing the fabric treatment composition by contacting the fabric treatment composition with the wet fabric during a drying operation in a dryer, and wherein the composition is provided in the form of a block wherein the block is constructed to provide release of an effective amount of the fabric treatment agent during at least 10 drying cycles in a dryer.

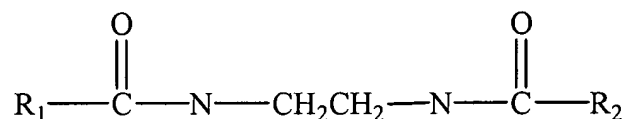
2. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises at least one of ~~softening agents~~, anti-static agents, anti-wrinkling agents, dye transfer inhibition/color protection agents, odor removal/odor capturing agents, soil shielding/soil releasing agents, ultraviolet light protection agents, fragrances, sanitizing agents, disinfecting agents, water repellency agents, insect repellency agents, anti-pilling agents, souring agents, mildew removing agents, allergicide agents, and mixtures thereof.

3-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein the fabric softener component comprises at least one of methyl bis(tallow amidoethyl)-2-hydroxyethyl ammonium methyl sulfate, methyl bis(oleylamidoethyl)-2-hydroxyethyl ammonium methyl sulfate, methyl bis(hydrogenated tallow amidoethyl)-2-hydroxyethyl ammonium methyl sulfate and mixtures thereof.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, ~~wherein the carrier component comprises ethylene bisamide~~ having has the formula:



wherein R₁ and R₂ can be the same or different and each are an alkyl group containing at least 6 carbon atoms.

12-15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the carrier component comprises at least one of ethylene bis-stearamide, ethylene bispalmitamide, ethylenebisoleamide, ethylene bisbehenamide, and mixtures thereof.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is provided in the form of a solid unit having a size of at least about 5 grams.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition in the form of block constructed for attachment to an inside surface of a dryer.

21-24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition has a melting temperature above 90°C.

26. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein cotton terry cloth towels, when subjected to at least 10 drying cycles in the presence of the fabric treatment composition, exhibit a whiteness retention of at least 90%.

27. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein fabric dried in the presence of the fabric treatment composition exhibit at least a 50% static reduction compared with the fabric dried outside of the presence of the fabric treatment composition.

28. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises an anti-wrinkling agent comprising siloxane or silicone containing compounds.

29. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises an odor capturing agent.

30. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises a color protection agent.

31. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises a soil releasing agent.

32. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises an optical brightening agent comprising fluorescing compounds.
33. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises a UV protection agent.
34. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises an anti-pilling agent comprising a cellulase enzyme.
35. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises a water repellency agent comprising perfluoroacrylate copolymers, hydrocarbon waxes, and polysiloxanes.
36. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises a disinfecting and/or sanitizing agent.
37. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises a souring agent for neutralizing residual alkaline.
38. (Currently Amended) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises an insect repellent.
- 39-40. (Canceled)
41. (Original) A fabric treatment composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises at least one of plasticizers, fragrances, and dyes.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Currently Amended) A method for treating fabric in a dryer, the method comprising:

(a) allowing fabric containing free water to contact a fabric treatment composition inside a dryer during a drying operation, wherein the fabric treatment composition comprises:

(i) fabric treatment agent comprising a fabric softener component comprising an amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or an ester quaternary ammonium compound; and

(ii) carrier component for containing the fabric treatment agent in a solid form during operation conditions in a dryer, the carrier component comprising an ethylene bisamide; and

(b) transferring the fabric treatment agent from the fabric treatment composition to the fabric as a result of solubilizing the fabric treatment agent with the free water in the fabric, and wherein the composition is provided in the form of a block wherein the block is constructed to provide release of an effective amount of the fabric treatment agent during at least 10 drying cycles in a dryer.

44. (Original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the step of transferring the fabric treatment composition substantially ends when the fabric dries sufficiently to lose the free water.

45. (Original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the step of transferring the fabric treatment composition comprises transferring the fabric treatment composition at a rate that decreases as the fabric dries during the drying operation.

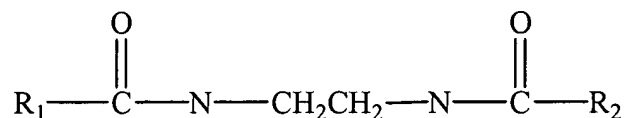
46. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 43, wherein the fabric treatment agent further comprises at least one of ~~softening agents~~, anti-static agents, anti-wrinkling agents, dye transfer inhibition/color protection agents, odor removal/odor capturing agents, soil shielding/soil releasing agents, ultraviolet light protection agents, fragrances, sanitizing agents, disinfecting agents, water repellency agents, insect repellency agents, anti-pilling agents, souring agents, mildew removing agents, allergicide agents, and mixtures thereof.

47-52. (Canceled)

53. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~[[47]]~~ 43, wherein the fabric softener component comprises at least one of methyl bis(tallow amidoethyl)-2-hydroxyethyl ammonium methyl sulfate, methyl bis(oleylamidoethyl)-2-hydroxyethyl ammonium methyl sulfate, methyl bis(hydrogenated tallow amidoethyl)-2-hydroxyethyl ammonium methyl sulfate and mixtures thereof.

54. (Canceled)

55. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 43, ~~wherein the carrier component comprises~~ ethylene bisamide ~~having~~ has the formula:



wherein R₁ and R₂ can be the same or different and each are an alkyl group containing at least 6 carbon atoms.

56-59. (Canceled)

60. (Original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the carrier component comprises at least one of ethylene bis-stearamide, ethylene bispalmitamide, ethylenebisoleamide, ethylene bisbehenamide and mixtures thereof.
61. (Original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the composition is provided in the form of a solid unit having a size of at least about 5 grams.
62. (Canceled)
63. (Original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the composition in the form of block constructed for attachment to an inside surface of a dryer.
- 64-67. (Canceled)
68. (Original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the composition has a melting temperature above 90°C.
69. (Original) A method according to claim 43, wherein cotton terry cloth towels, when subjected to at least 10 drying cycles in the presence of the fabric treatment composition, exhibit a whiteness retention of at least 90%.
70. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 43, wherein fabric dried in the presence of the fabric treatment composition exhibit at least a 50% static reduction compared with the fabric dried outside of the presence of the fabric treatment composition.
71. (New) A fabric treatment composition comprising:
- (a) fabric treatment agent comprising a fabric softener component comprising an amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or an ester quaternary ammonium compound; and

(b) carrier component for containing the fabric treatment agent in a solid form during operating conditions in a dryer, the carrier component comprising ethylene bisamide;

wherein the fabric treatment composition transfers to wet fabric as a result of solubilizing the fabric treatment composition by contacting the fabric treatment composition with the wet fabric during a drying operation in a dryer, and

wherein the composition is in the form of a block constructed for attachment to an inside surface of a dryer.

72. (New) A method for treating fabric in a dryer, the method comprising:

(a) allowing fabric containing free water to contact a fabric treatment composition inside a dryer during a drying operation, wherein the fabric treatment composition comprises:

(i) fabric treatment agent comprising a fabric softener component comprising an amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or an ester quaternary ammonium compound; and

(ii) carrier component for containing the fabric treatment agent in a solid form during operation conditions in a dryer, the carrier component comprising ethylene bisamide; and

(b) transferring the fabric treatment agent from the fabric treatment composition to the fabric as a result of solubilizing the fabric treatment agent with the free water in the fabric, wherein the composition is the form of a block constructed for attachment to an inside surface of a dryer.

73. (New) A fabric treatment composition comprising:

(a) fabric treatment agent comprising a fabric softener component comprising an amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or an ester quaternary ammonium compound; and

(b) carrier component for containing the fabric treatment agent in a solid form during operating conditions in a dryer, the carrier component comprising ethylene bisamide;

wherein the fabric treatment composition transfers to wet fabric as a result of solubilizing the fabric treatment composition by contacting the fabric treatment composition with the wet fabric during a drying operation in a dryer, and

wherein the composition is in the form of a ball constructed to release the fabric treatment agent during at least 10 drying cycles in a dryer.

74. (New) A method for treating fabric in a dryer, the method comprising:

(a) allowing fabric containing free water to contact a fabric treatment composition inside a dryer during a drying operation, wherein the fabric treatment composition comprises:

(i) fabric treatment agent comprising a fabric softener component comprising an amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or an ester quaternary ammonium compound; and

(ii) carrier component for containing the fabric treatment agent in a solid form during operation conditions in a dryer, the carrier component comprising ethylene bisamide; and

(b) transferring the fabric treatment agent from the fabric treatment composition to the fabric as a result of solubilizing the fabric treatment agent with the free water in the fabric, wherein the composition is in the form of a ball constructed to release the fabric treatment agent during at least 10 drying cycles.

75. (New) A fabric treatment composition comprising:

(a) fabric treatment agent comprising a fabric softener component comprising an amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or an ester quaternary ammonium compound; and

(b) carrier component for containing the fabric treatment agent in a solid form during operating conditions in a dryer, the carrier component comprising ethylene bisamide; wherein the fabric treatment composition transfers to wet fabric as a result of solubilizing the fabric treatment composition by contacting the fabric treatment composition with the wet fabric during a drying operation in a dryer, and wherein the composition is in the form of at least one of a pellet, a tablet, or a molded unit.

76. (New) A method for treating fabric in a dryer, the method comprising:

(a) allowing fabric containing free water to contact a fabric treatment composition inside a dryer during a drying operation, wherein the fabric treatment composition comprises:

(i) fabric treatment agent comprising a fabric softener component comprising an amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or an ester quaternary ammonium compound; and

(ii) carrier component for containing the fabric treatment agent in a solid form during operation conditions in a dryer, the carrier component comprising ethylene bisamide; and

(b) transferring the fabric treatment agent from the fabric treatment composition to the fabric as a result of solubilizing the fabric treatment agent with the free water in the fabric, wherein the composition is in the form of at least one of a pellet, a tablet, or a molded unit.

Support for Amendment

This specification is amended on page 22 to include the U.S. patent numbers for the identified patent applications.

Claim 1 is amended to include the amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or ester quaternary ammonium compound from claim 4, the ethylene bisamide component (see specification at page 19, line 2), and the features of claim 19.

Claim 43 is amended to include the amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or ester quaternary ammonium compound of claim 48, the ethylene bisamide component (see specification at page 19, line 2), and the features of claim 62.

New claim 71 is based upon original claim 1 and includes the amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or ester quaternary compound from claim 4, the ethylene bisamide component (see specification at page 19, line 2), and the features of claim 20.

New claim 72 is based upon original claim 43 and includes the amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or ester quaternary compound from claim 48, the ethylene bisamide component (see specification at page 19, line 2), and the features of claim 63.

New claim 73 is based upon original claim 1, and includes the amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or ester quaternary compound of claim 4, the ethylene bisamide component (see specification at page 19, line 2), and the features of claim 21.

New claim 74 is based upon original claim 43 and includes the amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or ester quaternary compound of claim 48, the ethylene bisamide component (see specification at page 19, line 2), and the features of claim 64.

New claim 75 is based upon original claim 1 and includes the amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or ester quaternary compound of claim 4, the ethylene bisamide component (see specification at page 19, line 2), and the features of claim 24.

New claim 76 is based upon original claim 43 and includes the amidoamine quaternary ammonium compound or ester quaternary ammonium compound of claim 48, the ethylene bisamide component (see specification at page 19, line 2), and the features of claim 67.

Claims 2, 9, 11, 26-38, 46 and 55 are amended in view of the above-described amendments. The changes relate to claim dependency or antecedent basis.

Claims 3-8, 10, 12-15, 17, 19, 21-24, 39, 40, 42, 47-52, 54, 56-60, 62 and 64-67 are canceled by this amendment.

Accordingly, no new matter is introduced by this amendment, and entry thereof is requested. Upon entry, claims 1, 2, 9, 11, 16, 18, 20, 25-38, 41, 43-46, 53, 55, 61, 63 and 68-76 are active in this application.